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Notes on the Churches of Ruscombe, Shottesbrooke, Waltham St. Lawrence, and Hurst

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IN about a mile from Shottesbrooke we come to Waltham St. Lawrence, or Lawrence Waltham as it is more commonly called. On arriving at the nucleus of the village one cannot help being impressed with the picturesque group formed by the Church, the Parish Pound, enclosed within majestic elms, and the black and white inn, a combination which can hardly be rivalled elsewhere. It claims to be a place of great antiquity. Camden in the *Britannia* refers to the foundations of a Roman fort, as still existing in his time, and mentions the large number of Roman coins dug up there, of some of which he gives illustrations. In Hearne's edition of Leland's *Itinerary*, in an account of some antiquities between Windsor and Oxford (previously referred to), Vol. V, p. 143, mention is also made of the large number of Roman coins found here, and the suggestion is made that this place was closely connected with the great city of Silchester. In the 'Beauties of England and Wales, Berkshire,' Vol. I, p. 181, we find the following paragraph: 'Laurence Waltham, though now reduced to a few scattered houses, is reported to have been a place of remote antiquity and much importance. Some of the buildings wear the appearance of having flourished in better times, and the ruins of many more

are visible. The inhabitants assert that the houses were formerly very numerous, and that they extended a considerable way on each side of the road, which at the entrance of the village passes under an arched gateway, composed of large oak timbers. In a spacious field in the neighbourhood, named Weycock Highrood, was a Roman fortress, the remains of which were apparent in the time of Camden. Its site is still called Castle-acre, and commands a delightful view over a very large extent of country. On this spot many Roman coins have been found, chiefly of the Lower Empire; and Mr. Hearne dug up a silver one of Amyntas, the grandfather of Alexander the Great.' Lysons in the 'Magna Britannia' devotes most of his work to the manorial history of the various parishes, and in the Berkshire volume, in the account of Lawrence Waltham, he states that the manor was given, together with the whole hundred of Wargrave, to the See of Winchester by Queen Emma, mother of King Edward the Confessor, by whom the grant was resumed, and the manor settled on his wife Editha. In 1189 it was purchased of Richard I by Godfrey de Lucy, Bishop of Winchester, and by him again annexed to the See. In 1554 the whole manor of Wargrave was surrendered to King Edward VIth, and was granted by him to Sir Henry Nevill, and his descendant, the present Lord Braybrooke, is still the proprietor. These manors 'possess extensive privileges, under royal grants to the Bishop of Winchester; such as free chase, and free warren, exemption from the forest laws, and from the expeditation of dogs, &c., &c.' The great tithes of this parish were formerly appropriated to the priory of Hurley, and have since been granted to the Nevills, and are now the property of Lord Braybrooke, who is patron of the Vicarage. An important parish like this must abound in interesting events, which it is hoped some local historian will endeavour to compile and publish.

As already stated, the church (Fig. 31) is situated in the midst of the most picturesque surroundings. It is, as the name of the parish indicates, dedicated to St. Lawrence, and consists of a west tower, nave, aisles, with south porch, chancel, and north and south chapels. It was restored in 1847, and again in 1888, and unfortunately in so drastic a fashion that it is difficult to discriminate between the new and

old work. Of the Norman church two arches on either side of the nave remain. Considerable alterations were made in the late 13th century, the two eastern bays of the nave, and the beautiful west window, incorporated in the later tower, being in the decorated style. The chapel on the north of the chancel is of 15th century date. The chancel and south chapel have been thoroughly renovated; the latter still retains portions of the 15th century work. The tower is of late 15th century date. The church is chiefly built of stone, but some of the later work is in brick.

The chancel has been rebuilt. There is one arch opening on each side to the chapels, of the perpendicular period, with two chamfered orders supported on semioctagonal responds and capitals. The east windows of the south chapel are square-headed good perpendicular, probably altered to their present situation when the chapel was enlarged. The east window of the north chapel is of three lights, good square-headed, of the same style and date as those in the south chapel..

In the south wall (Fig. 32) is a pretty little arched piscina with cinquefoiled fringe to the canopy, stone shelf, and projecting semi-circular basin on a well-moulded bracket. On the north wall is the large mural monument of Sir Henry Nevill (Fig. 33). It is in two compartments. It has a rich entablature supported on Corinthian columns, and under a semi-circular arch in each compartment kneels a knight, in the eastern one with two ladies, and in the western one with one lady behind him. Above is a shield with eight quarterings bearing the arms of Sir Henry Nevill and his alliances, with remains of the original blazoning. The crest, a lion, and supporters are also coloured. Below the eastern compartment is the following inscription in capital letters:—

CONSILIO ATQ MANU SACRIS FAMULANTIA SCEPTRIS.

PECTORA SUB PARIO MARMORE PRESSA JACENT.

SANCTE SENEX CUIUS SANCTA STUPET ANGLIA VITA,

MARS* ANIMOS MORES REGIA SCEPTRA FIDEM.

MARMORA SI TACEANT MEMORI PRO MARMORE SERVIT

ANGLIA NOMINIBUS NOBILITATA TUIS.

HERE LYETH BURYED SR HENRY NEVILL KNIGHT DESCENDED OF THE NEVILLS BARONS OF ABERGUEVENY, WHO WERE A BRANCHE OF THE

* Ashmole calls this 'Mors.' It is undoubtedly 'Mars.'

HOWSE OF WESTMERLANDE. HE WAS (BESYDE MARTIAL SERVICES) OF THE PRIVIE CHAMBER TO K HENRY THE 8 AND EDWARD THE 6. HE DYED 13 JANUARY A^O 1593. ISSUE HE HAD ONLY BY DAME ELIZAB SOLE HEYER TO S^R JOHN GRESHAM KNYGHTE, WHICH DAME ELIZABETI DIED 6 NOVEMBER A^O 1573, DAME FRANCES AND ARE BOTH HERE ALLSO BURIED WITH ELIZABETH NEVILL THE ELDEST DAUGHTER.

The arch from chapel to north aisle is decorated with two orders on a semi-octagonal respond on north and smaller half-round respond on south side. There is a small lancet window at west end of north aisle. The nave arcade (Fig. 34) is composed of four arches on each side; the two eastern are decorated (Fig. 35) in two chamfered orders with the wave moulding on the arches and abacus. They are supported on an octagonal column and semi-octagonal respond. The two western arches (Fig. 36) are Norman quite plain, with massive abacus, the east on south side (Fig. 37) with some scalloping on the under side, and supported on plain piers. The tower arch (Fig. 38) is lofty perpendicular, with two fluted orders dying into the jambs. The west window is very fine decorated of three lights. It is within a well-moulded containing arch, supported on bell-shaped capitals and slender engaged shafts. The tracery is very rich with solid mullions and quatrefoils in the head. There is a small segmental-headed doorway in interior south side of tower. The font is modern, a rather poor replica of the one at Shottesbrooke. The pulpit (Fig. 39) is Jacobean, with canopy above. On the back are the initials 'R.F.' and date 1619; on shields in front 'R.M.' and 'N.D.', two figures, and a variety of ornaments. The pulpit is pentagonal. The south doorway (Fig. 40) within modern porch is decorated with the quarter-round on the hoodmould, and hollow and quarter-round on arch and jambs. The south windows of nave and dormer in roof are modern. The north wall of nave, and south wall of chancel are covered with roughcast, the church being composed of flint and rubble except the wall on east of south chapel, which is of brick. The north windows of the nave are partly old. There are three of two lights of decorated date. The north doorway is decorated with plain chamfered arch and jambs and modern hoodmould.

The tower, constructed of flint (Fig. 41), is fine late per-

pendicular, with brick battlements, probably built about the year 1500, and has graduated buttresses on north and south sides and at the angles. There are plain two-light belfry windows, that on east side blocked up. There is a small trefoiled light renewed in upper stage below the belfry windows. The fine three-light decorated window was no doubt preserved from the earlier west front and inserted in its present situation. The west doorway is four-centred perpendicular within rectangular frame, with a rose and knot work within each spandril. There is a turret on south-east side of tower. There are six bells. The approximate interior dimensions are as follows :—

Tower, 10 ft. by 11 ft. 3 in.

Nave, 58 ft. 7 in. by 18 ft. 7 in.

North aisle, 55 ft. 9 in. by 8 ft. 3 in.

South aisle, 59 ft. by 8 ft. 6 in.

Chancel, 25 ft. by 16 ft.

North chapel, 23 ft. 2 in. by 9 ft. 3 in.

South chapel, 19 ft. 4 in. by 21 ft.

There is a fine yew tree in the churchyard.

A drive of about five miles will bring us to Hurst Church. The parish is a large one, and comprises most of the strip of land formerly included in Wiltshire. Twyford was till recently one of its hamlets, but has now been converted into a separate parish. The parish of Hurst consists of four liberties or tythings, *viz.* Whistley, Winnersh, Newland and Broad Hinton, the last-named district being in the insulated portion of Wiltshire. Each liberty has its own overseers and other parochial officers. The manor of Hurst, which includes the liberties of Whistley and Hinton, was granted by King Edgar to the Abbot and convent of Abingdon, and held by them till the dissolution of the monasteries, when it was granted to Richard and Anne Ward, and from them, it passed by marriage to the Harisons. Sir Richard Harison married a daughter of Lady Savile, and resided at Hurst House, which was then the seat of the Lords of the Manor. He was an ardent Royalist, and raised two troops of horse for the service of King Charles I. The liberties of Winnersh and Newland are within the Manor of Sonning. The Manors of Windlesham and Twyford were formerly within this parish. Hurst House was pulled down in 1847. During the course

of demolition, some interesting decoration and black letter texts were found on the walls of one of the principal bedrooms, probably dating from Queen Elizabeth's reign.

Haines Hall, in this parish, is a fine brick mansion. It was probably built by William Hyde and afterwards the seat of Sir Thomas Windebank, clerk of the signet, and the birth-place of his son, Sir Francis Windebank, Secretary of State to King Charles I. Henry Fairfax, second son of Thomas Viscount Fairfax, married the only daughter of Henry Barker, and resided in the Wiltshire portion of the parish. He died in 1650, and was buried in the Parish Church, which also contains the memorials of other members of this distinguished family.

The church (Fig. 42) dedicated to St. Nicholas has been very much restored and partly rebuilt. In 1850 it was described by Parker as of mixed styles, mostly of the seventeenth century. It consists of a west tower, nave, aisles (the south new), chancel, and north chancel chapel. A visit was paid to the church by the Berks Archæological Society on May 31st, 1899, and a brief description of it occurs in Vol. V, p. 36, of the *Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal*. The oldest portion of the church is the eastern arch of the north nave arcade, which is Norman; the next arch is trans-Norman, and the windows and north doorway of the aisle are probably of the same date. The west arch of the north nave arcade is decorated, the nave having been lengthened about the year 1300. The screens, and some interesting stone corbels, and perhaps portions of some of the roofs belong to the perpendicular period. The chief interest of the church is the large collection of monuments, some of portentous size, of the 16th and 17th centuries, mainly grouped together in the north chancel chapel.

In the chancel and chancel chapel nothing remains of architectural interest. Parker records the dates 1627 and 1638 over the respective east windows, no doubt commemorating work carried out at the cost of some of the worthy families whose monuments now occupy the chapel. There is a plain blocked doorway on the north side of the chapel. Here is gathered together a wonderful array of 16th and 17th century monuments. The earliest is a tomb in the north wall of late perpendicular character (Fig. 43), with

cresting, cornice of quatrefoils, and canopy supported on shafts resting on a table with marble slab and shields on the front. One might perhaps consider this to be an Easter sepulchre or founder's tomb of early 16th century date, appropriated by the Warde family in post-Reformation times. It is very similar to the tomb of Anthony Forster at Cummor. At the back, on a tablet evidently an insertion, is in the centre a shield in brass, 'arg. on a chevron sable three wolves heads erased or, a chief az charged with a cross patonce between two martlets of the third,' for Warde. On either side are kneeling figures in brass of Richard Warde, his wife and family, *viz.*, on the west a civilian kneeling at a faldstool and seven sons behind him, on the east a lady, also kneeling at a faldstool, and with seven daughters behind her. Above her head on a brass plate is the inscription, 'Colubra Ward dyed ye xiiii day of Aprill, anno 1574,' and her arms, 'gules on a bend arg. three dolphins embowed vert,' for Flambert, and above the husband's family a shield with his arms impaling those of his wife. Under the effigy of the husband is the following inscription, of which Ashmole in 'The Antiquities of Berkshire' gives the usual free translation:—

VITA FUGIT WARDUS CECIDIT NEC FUNERA DEFLE
 PERPETUAM VITAM QUI BENE VIXIT HABET
 STEMMATE CLARUS ERAT VERE CHRISTUMQ̃ TIMEBAT
 ATQ̃ PLACERE DEO MAXIMA CURA FUIT
 HINC CHRISTO DILECTUS ERAT CHRISTUSQ̃ FAVEBAT
 ATQ̃ SIBI CHRISTUS CUNCTA SECUNDA DEDIT
 OCTAVO HENRICO EDUARDO MARIE ELIZABETHA
 AULÆ PROQUÆSTOR FIDUS AMANSQ̃ FUIT
 ILLIS FIDUS ERAT DILECTUS ET OMNIBUS ISTIS
 NULLA SIBI QUÆRENS COMMODA NULLA SUIS
 UT PIA VITA FUIT SIC MORS PIA DIGNAQ̃ VITA
 ET SIBI PER MORTEM VITA PERENNIS ADEST
 CONSORTEM THALAMI TANDEM SOCIATQ̃ COLUMBRAM
 QUOS HUMUS UNA TEGIT JUNXIT ET UNUS AMOR.

On the cornice above are three shields, *viz.* on the left the arms of Warde, in the centre Warde impaling 'arg. 6 moor-cocks 3.2.1. sable,' for Moore, and on the right Warde impaling Flambert. On the front of the table below are five shields, *viz.* (1) Warde, (2) gone, (3) Warde impaling Flambert, (4) Warde, (5) Flambert.

On the north wall is placed a curious brass representing a young woman in bed with an infant by her side. An in-

scription on the stone from which this brass has been removed runs as follows:—

HEERE LYETH THE BODIE
OF ALSE HARISON THE
WIFE OF THOMAS HARISON
ESQVIER : ELDEST DAVGHTER
OF RICHARD WARD ESQVIER
COOFEROR TO QUEENE
ELIZEBETH : WHOE DIED IN
CHILD BED OF HER FIRST
SONN RICHARD HARISON
ESQVIER : THE FATHER OF
SIR RICHARD HARISON
KNIGHT.

Here also is a brass, with inscription round the verge to Richard Kippax, who died in 1625, and a very eulogistic epitaph:—

HERE LYETH BURIED THE BODY OF

ELEGIACALL

OR MOURNEFULL VERSES MADE UPON THE DEATH OF MR RICHARD KIPPAX SOMETIMES EXAMINER IN THE STAR CHAMBER OFFICE

WHICH VERSES

BY A FREIND WELL WISHING TO HIS MEMORY ARE DEDICATED
TO MRS ANNE KIPPAX HIS LATE WIFE SISTER TO THE WORTHY GEN
& BARRON

TLEMAN SR RICHARD FLEETWOOD KNIGHT BARRONETT OF NUTON.
FORTY THREE YEARSE ABOUT THE WOULD HE WENT
AND THEN CAST ANCHOR ALL HIS STRENGTH BEING SPENT
TO DYE IS DREADFULL BUT TO SETT LIFE FREE
CROWND WITH RICH HOPES BRINGS JOY AND SO DID HEE
FOR HIS SOULE WINGED WITH AN AMBITIOUS FIRE
TOLLD HIM THERE WAS A NEW STAR CHAMBER HIGHER
THAN THAT WHERE OUR LORDES SETT AT WESTMINSTER
NOR COULD HEE REST TILL HEE HAD GOTT IN THERE
HIS OFFICE (HERE TO THAT ABOVE) WAS BASE
HEAVEN IS INDEEDE THE TRUE EXAMINERS PLACE
FOUR COUNTRIES CHALLENGEDE SHARES IN HIM ON EARTH
TO LANCASHIRE HEE WAS INGAGEDE FOR BIRTH
TO MIDDLESEX HEE IN DEEPE BONDES DID RONNE
FOR FREE AND GENEROU EDUCATION
IN WILTSHIRE DID HIS LIFE BREAKE ALL HER CHARMES
WHILE BARKESHIRE VOWDE HIS GRAVE SHOULD BEE HER ARMES
BUT HIS PURE SOULE WHICH DID BASE EARTH CONTEMNE
IS A FREE HOLDER IN JERUSALEM.

OF DAY XIII THE LYFE SIHL

1625.
DOMINIE
ANNO
SEPTEMBER

RICHARD KIPPAX GENTLE MAN WHO DEPARTED

On the north wall, at the east end, is the very fine monument of Lady Margaret Savile (Fig. 44). She is represented on the east side of the central compartment kneeling at a faldstool and facing her third husband, Sir Henry Savile, in his full robes as provost of Eton. Behind her a gentleman in armour and his lady are also kneeling at a faldstool, and facing each other, while behind her husband are two sons also kneeling. Above is an entablature, the central portion having semi-circular canopy, and below is drapery, the central part separated from the outer by projecting brackets carved into the upper portion of two human figures, while at either end a large figure on a pedestal is holding back the curtain. The whole arrangement suggests the idea of a large tent, with the drapery drawn up, so as to show the several figures kneeling within it. On the cornice above are in the central semi-circular portion 'Memoriæ Sacrum,' and on the flat surface on either side 'Mihi Vita Christus' and 'Mihi Mors Lucrum.' Over the central portion within an arched compartment capped by an urn, and supported on classic columns, is the main shield, with the following arms, 'Arg. on a bend Sa 3 owls of the field, a mullet for difference,' Savile, impaling 'Arg. a chevron sa betwixt three torteaux, each charged with an escallop shell of the field,' for Dacres. On the dexter side on the top of the cornice is another shield, 'Arg. on a bend sable 3 mascles of the field,' Carlton, impaling 'Arg. on a fesse sa a lion passant of the field, a mullet for difference,' Garrard. On the sinister side a similar shield with quarterly 1 and 4, 'Sa three spread eagles of the field,' Harison, 2 Ward, 3 Garrard, imp. 'az. a fesse wavy between 3 goats' heads erased,' Sidley, impaling Savile. On the sinister side, over the man in armour and his wife is Harison impaling Garrard. Below the figures of the Lady Margaret and Sir Henry Savile, is the following inscription in capital letters:—

[On black marble slab.]

HERE LYETH IN EXPECTATION OF A JOYFULL RESURRECTION
LADY MARGARET SAVILE, DAUGHTER TO GEORGE DACRES ESQUIER
DESCENDED FROM YE RT NOBLE & ANCIENT FAMILY OF THE BARONS
DACRES OF YE NORTH.

SHE HAD THREE HUSBANDS

THE FIRST GEORGE GARRARD ESQ SECOND SONNE TO SIR WILL GARRARD
KNT SOMETIMES LD MAYOR OF LONDON. THE SECOND JOHN SMITH ESQ

IN THE COUNTYE OF ESSEX. THE THIRD THE HONORABLE & MOST
FAMOUS KNIGHT BOTH FOR THE STUDYES & ADVANCEMENT OF LEARNING
SR HENRY SAVILE READER TO QUEENE ELIZABETH OF BLESSED
MEMORY WARDEN OF MERTON COLLEGE IN OXFORD, & PROVOST
OF EATON, WHERE HE LEVTH INTERRED.

AND BY THEM NINE CHILDREN.

BY HER FIRST HUSBAND THREE DAUGHTERS THE ELDEST YE LADY
ANNE CARLETON, WIFE TO THE LORD CARLETON, VISCOUNT
DORCHESTER. THE SECOND DYED IN HER INFANCY, THE YOUNGEST
THE LADY FRANCES HARISON, WIFE TO SR RICHARD HARISON, KNIGHT.
BY HER SECOND HUSBAND THREE SONNES ALL WH DECEASED IN THEIR
INFANCY.

BY HER THIRD HUSBAND TWO SONNES WCH DYED YOUNGE AND ONE
DAUGHTER YE LADY ELIZABETH SIDLY WIFE TO SR JOHN SIDLY BARONET.

[*On white marble below.*]

SHE ERECTED THIS MONUMENT
WHILST SHE WAS YET LIVINGE FOR HERSELFE AND HERS
BEING DESIROUS TO DEPOSITE HER BODY IN YT PLACE
WHERE LIVEINGE SHE HAD FOUND SO MUCH CONTENT
& SOE SWEET A REPOSE OF HER AGE.

SHE WAS BORNE AT CHESHUNT IN HARTFORD
SHEIRE & DYED AO DOM 1631
ÆTATIS SVÆ 73.

Below the kneeling figures of the man in armour and his wife are five kneeling figures. The panels under the figures on either side of the central one have no inscriptions on them.

The design of the monument of this excellent lady is very good, and full of interest. As has already been stated, it suggests the idea of a large tent with the side drapery drawn up so as to exhibit the figures kneeling within it. Somewhat similar examples with the tent introduced are to be found (1) at St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, on the north side of the nave, on the monument of Robert Chamberlayne, son of Sir Robert Chamberlayne. He is represented as kneeling under a tent, with an angel holding back the drapery on either side, (2) at St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, on the north wall of the north aisle, on the monument of Capt. Martin Bond, 'dyed in May, 1643.' He is represented seated at a table within a marquee, open as at Hurst; a soldier armed with a matchlock on one side, and two men holding his horse on the other (see Rev. J. E. Cox, D.D., 'The Annals of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate,' 1876, pp. 63, 64); (3) at St. Margaret's Church, Barking, Essex, on the south wall of the chancel is the monument of Sir Charles Montagu, brother of the first Earl of Manchester. He died at Cranbrook in 1625, aged 61. He is represented sitting in a tent, his elbow resting on a desk, on which are

placed his helmet and gauntlets; his sword and shield hang at the back; two sentinels guard the door, near which stands a page with his horse; in the background are several other tents (see 'A Sketch of Ancient Barking,' E. Tuck, 3rd edition, 1905, p. 15, 'Handbook to the Environs of London,' J. Thorne, F.S.A., 1876). At Kinnersley Church, Herefordshire, is another more elaborate example on the monument of Robert Smalman, died 1637, and Susan his wife. The pair are kneeling facing each other on either side of the tablet containing their epitaph, and his armorial shield above, all this within an elegant tent, with a cherub blowing a trumpet and holding back the drapery on either side. Below are kneeling members of the family (see Brindley and Weatherley, 'Ancient Sepulchral Monuments,' p. 163). No doubt other examples can be cited.

There are numerous monuments, mostly of 17th century date, in addition to those already specially set out in this same chapel. On the south wall is a very large and 'fair monument of black and white marble' to Sir Richard Harison, son of Richard and grandson of Alse Harison, and great grandson of Richard Ward, with effigies of a man in armour, his wife and son. We learn from the epitaph that 'He served King Charles the I all the time of the civil wars, for which he suffered the Persecution of Sequestration, Composition, &c. His estate was much wasted by raising 2 troupes of horse at his own charge,' &c. He lived to see the joyful return of King Charles II, by whom he was made a member of the Privy Chamber. He died in 1683. There is another monument to his son William, with later inscription; he died in 1694.

Next we find monuments to the Barkers, the earliest being to Henry Barker, who died in 1651. His son William founded the almshouses facing the church in 1664. And then we come across the memorials of the Fairfaxes. The earliest commemorates Henry Fairfax, second son of Thomas, Viscount Fairfax, who married Frances, only daughter of Henry Barker, and who died in 1650. His son Henry was heir to his uncle, William Barker, and erected the memorial stone on the front of the almshouses. A full account of the Fairfaxes of Hurst, by the Rev. C. W. Penny, is to be found in the Quarterly Journal of the *Berks Archæ-*

ological and Architectural Society, Vol. II, p. 122. The Fairfax family were only connected with the parish for about forty years. There is also a flat stone commemorating William Hyde, the elder, William the eldest and Humphry the youngest son and his family; the said Humphry died in 1665. William the elder was the eldest son of Thomas Hyde of Hurst; who was the second son of William Hyde of South Denchworth. He was High Sheriff of Berkshire in the 21st year of King James I. In the list of Sheriffs he is described as of Kingston Lisle. He lived at, and probably built, the mansion at Haines Hill, as the initials 'W.H.' let into the brickwork testify. He was living according to the Heralds' Visitation in 1623.

Continuing our perambulation of the church, we next notice the beautiful perpendicular screens (Fig. 45) dividing the chancel from the nave, and the chapel from the north aisle. They have been repainted and no doubt restored. On the top of the chancel screen are the arms of King James I, and on that of the chapel screen those of his son, Prince Henry. The roodbeam is supported on stone corbels (Fig. 46), *viz.* on north a monster head, and on south the heads and arms of two figures. The south arcade of the nave and south aisle are new. The north arcade consists of three arches, the east is Norman semi-circular (Fig. 47), the next transition obtusely pointed. The east respond (Fig. 48) has a foliated capital and undercut abacus, apparently cut out of the earlier work. There is a claw at the base. The central column (Fig. 49) is cylindrical, the lower part being considerably larger than the upper. At the top of the wider portion is a singular projecting ledge or abacus, octagonal on plan. The capital is scalloped and a massive chamfered abacus supports the arches, which are both quite plain. The west respond (Fig. 50) with scalloped capital is Norman. The western arch is segmental headed with two plain chamfered ribs. The arch rests on brackets (Fig. 51) with two heads on each side. The nave roof, which may be partly old, is supported on a series of stone brackets (Fig. 52), with small shafts having a head at the top and bottom, probably of 15th century date. The tower arch is new. The pulpit at the south-east corner of the nave is good Jacobean. Attached to the adjoining pillar is a very elaborate hourglass (Fig. 53).

within a frame, and having very richly wrought and painted metal work with oak leaves and acorns, and with date in gilt letters, 1636. Below on either side is the lion and unicorn, and the initials 'E A' below. There is also inscribed in small letters:

'As this glasse runneth,
So man's life passethe.'

This seems to have been renewed. In the north aisle are three lancets in the north wall, and a modern west window. The aisle and chapel roofs are wagon-shaped and partly old. The interior arch of the north doorway is lofty, acutely pointed, and of trans-Norman or early English date. At the west end of the aisle is a very large table tomb with black marble slab, commemorating Richard Bigg, who died in 1677. He gave three houses in St. Giles, in the County of Middlesex, to the parish. On the south wall are several large stone corbels. One has a monster head with the tongue out, another a reclining figure with large head, and part of another figure with the head gone. The font is new, taking the place of the plain old Norman tub font in 1875.

In the west window of the north aisle are two circular panels (Fig. 54) in old glass, said to have been brought from Haines Hill. The upper one (Fig. 55A) represents the Adoration of the Magi. The Blessed Virgin in a white robe and with a brown nimbus, has the infant Christ, clad in a brown vestment, on her lap, and is seated under a white semi-circular arch, supported on white columns. The first of the kings is kneeling with a brown cloak over a white and gold robe and blue stockings, and is holding a brown cup. The two others stand behind, also in white and gold vestments and brown cloaks and crowns. Both hold brown cups. The two first are bearded. There is a star above. The groundwork is blue. Round the panel, in black letters on a brown ground, is the inscription, 'Obtulerunt ei munera, aurum thus et myrrha.' There is an outer red border studded with black crosses on a white ground. The lower panel (Fig. 55B) portrays the Last Supper. In the centre, under a golden canopy with a blue background to the upper part is our Lord seated with golden cruciform nimbus, yellow hair, white and gold tunic, St. John, also in white and with book in the left

hand, reclining in His bosom. There are five apostles, three seated and two standing on each side, clad in white and gold vestments, and with yellow hair and nimbus. A figure, probably of Judas Iscariot, is on the near side of the table, which has a white cloth, a dish with fish on it, two other dishes, three small objects, and a knife, all in the yellow colour. Round the panel is the following inscription in black letters on yellow ground: 'Et post bucella introavit in eum Sathanas.' There is a red outer border with black crosses. The date is probably early 16th century.

On the exterior of the church there is very little worth noting, the restoration of 1875, having been carried out in a drastic manner. The tower of brick (Fig. 56) was built in 1612, and though much renewed, is a good specimen of that period. The upper belfry lights are filled in with stone tracery. There are eight bells. The lancets on the north side of the nave have been renewed. The north doorway is transition Norman or Early English, pointed with chamfered hoodmould and two plain chamfered orders to arch and jambs and undercut abacus. The dripstone of the west on south window terminates on head of a man with animal above. The church is built of flints. There is a fine yew tree by the south doorway.

On the south side of the church are the picturesque brick almshouses built and endowed by William Barker, who died in 1685, and is buried in the north chancel of the church.

A good deal of information about the church and parish is to be gleaned from 'A few words about Hurst,' published by its late Vicar, the Rev. A. A. Cameron, in 1882. By him the chancel and chancel aisle were restored in 1855, but the enlargement of the church took place in 1875.

The approximate interior dimensions are as follows:

Tower, 12 ft. 3 in. by 14 ft. 8 in.

Nave, 58 ft. by 20 ft. 10 in.

North aisle, 50 ft. 9 in. by 19 ft. 7 in.

South aisle, 45 ft. 5 in. by 16 ft. 6 in.

Chancel, 31 ft. 8 in. by 18 ft. 4 in.

North chapel, 31 ft. 7 in. by 19 ft.